

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7317

BILL NUMBER: HB 1621

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 9, 2009

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Broadband Deployment Council.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Pierce

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill creates the Technology Opportunity Account to provide financial support for the Technology Opportunity Program. It appropriates money in the account for the purposes of the account. It also establishes the Indiana Broadband Services Deployment Council to develop a strategy for the adoption and deployment of broadband services in Indiana.

Effective Date: July 1, 2009.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC)*- This bill will increase administrative expenditures of the IURC by requiring the IURC to provide administrative and staff support to the Indiana Broadband Services Deployment Council.

Indiana Broadband Services Deployment Council- Expenses paid to members of the newly established Indiana Broadband Services Deployment Council are estimated at less than \$10,000 per year. The specific cost will depend on the number of meetings held, attendance, and the distance that members will travel to meet.

The bill provides that each member of the council who is not a state employee is entitled to the minimum salary per diem, reimbursement for traveling expenses, and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties. Members who are state employees are entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses incurred in connection with duties.

The council will have the authority to apply for and receive grants and donations for broadband services projects.

Background Information- The council consists of the following members:

- (1) The State Superintendent of Public Instruction or the superintendent's designee.
- (2) The Commissioner of the Commission for Higher Education or the commissioner's designee.
- (3) The director of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation or the director's designee.
- (4) The chairman of the commission or the chairperson's designee.
- (5) The Consumer Counselor of the Office of the Utility Consumer Counselor or the Consumer Counselor's designee.
- (6) The following members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:
 - (a) one member who is a medical professional with expertise in medical informatics.
 - (b) one member representing Indiana elected officials of counties.
 - (c) one member representing Indiana elected officials of cities and towns.
 - (d) one member with expertise in broadband services or other communications technologies.
- (7) The following members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate:
 - (a) one member who is a medical professional with expertise in medical informatics.
 - (b) one member representing Indiana elected officials of counties.
 - (c) one member representing Indiana elected officials of cities and towns.
 - (d) one member with expertise in broadband services or other communications technologies.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: IURC.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources:

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